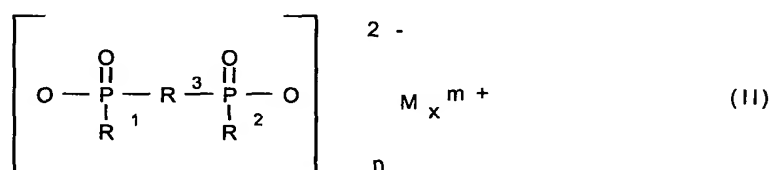
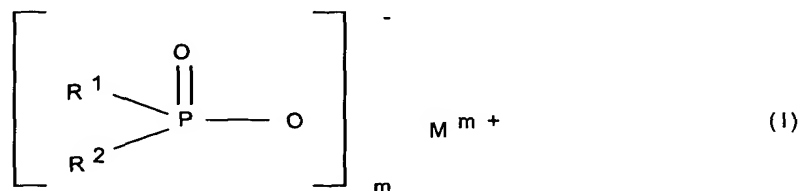


Abstract of the Disclosure

The invention relates to surface-modified phosphinic salts of the formula (I) and/or diphosphinic salts of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these,



where

R^1 and R^2 are identical or different and are C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, linear or branched, and/or aryl;

R^3 is C_1 - C_{10} -alkylene, linear or branched, C_6 - C_{10} -arylene, -alkylarylene, or -arylalkylene;

M is Mg, Ca, Al, Sb, Sn, Ge, Ti, Zn, Fe, Zr, Ce, Bi, Sr, Mn, Li, Na, K, and/or a protonated nitrogen base;

m is from 1 to 4;

n is from 1 to 4;

x is from 1 to 4,

wherein the phosphinic salts and/or diphosphinic salts, or their polymers, have been encapsulated with a surface layer composed of a synthetic resin or a wax, and to a process for their preparation, and to their use as flame retardants for thermoplastic and thermoset polymers.